

Kessler, Ellen

From: Strength, Stephanie - Washington, DC [Stephanie.Strength@wdc.usda.gov]
Sent: Tuesday, July 28, 2009 11:18 AM
To: Lilley, Bliss; Collins, Carly
Subject: FW: CapX2020

-----Original Message-----

From: rozlac@acegroup.cc [mailto:rozlac@acegroup.cc]
Sent: Friday, July 24, 2009 9:54 AM
To: Strength, Stephanie - Washington, DC
Subject: CapX2020

Dear Ms. Strength,

With regard to the CapX2020 La Crosse Project, I have read the letter from Sharon Erickson Ropes to you dated July 23, 2009. Please count me among those who are in full agreement with the concerns and requests that Ms. Erickson Ropes has outlined. To that I would add that the future of energy production and consumption in this country is local. It is a future that is already taking root and is gaining momentum every day. Projects that promote continued reliance on centralization of production and/or long distance transmission of electrical power are sadly out of step with new realities and will soon become obsolete.

If CapX202 is allowed to move forward, it will come at an extraordinary yet totally unnecessary cost in both dollars and environmental degradation and the new towers and transmission lines (wherever they are constructed) will stand in lasting, mute testimony to a tragically flawed view of the future that favors the narrow interests of the utility companies over the real needs of consumers. Accordingly, I respectfully request that USDA/RUC refuse to lend its support to the CapX2020 La Crosse Project by choosing a "no-build" option.

Sincerely,

Jim Rozovics
4637 Turkey Valley Lane
La Crescent, MN

I-217-001

Your comment has been noted. Alternatives to the project will be addressed in the Draft Environmental Impact Statement. The Draft Environmental Impact Statement will be available on the RUS website at: <http://www.usda.gov/rus/water/ees/eis.htm>. Comments on the Draft Environmental Impact Statement will be solicited after its publication.

I-217-002

Your comment has been noted. Dairyland Power Cooperative, one of the CapX2020 utilities, has requested financial assistance from USDA Rural Utilities Service (RUS), for Dairyland's anticipated 11 percent ownership interest in the proposed Hampton-Rochester-La Crosse 345 kilovolt transmission line project. RUS has determined that its funding of Dairyland's ownership interest is a federal action and therefore subject to the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) and Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA). RUS is the lead agency for both NEPA and Section 106 review.